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News Release

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Update and comment meetings on the Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study scheduled for Saint Joseph and Bismarck

OMAHA – Two public presentations on the findings and recommendations from the focus group and tribal meetings in support of the Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study are being sponsored by the Army Corps of Engineers next week.

The first will be in St. Joseph, Mo., on Monday, Mar. 8 at Missouri Western State University, Fulkerson Center, 4525 Downs Drive. The second will be in Bismarck, N.D., on Wednesday, Mar. 10 at the Kelly Inn, 1800 North 12th Street. Both meetings start at 5:30 p.m.

Corps staff and an independent facilitator will conduct the meetings which consist of two parts. First will be a presentation on the background of the study and the upcoming Scoping Meeting phase.

The second part will be a presentation on the findings and recommendations that came out of the recent focus group and tribal meetings. This presentation will be followed by an opportunity for members of the public to comment on the information provided.

These two meetings are not the formal scoping meetings that will define the size and shape of the authorized purposes study. Those will be conducted later this summer. Advance notice of the dates and sites will be announced later in the spring.

The Army Corps of Engineers has been directed by Congress to conduct a review of the original purposes established by the 1944 Flood Control Act. The goal of the multi-year study is to determine if changes in the eight purposes are warranted. These purposes are flood control, hydropower, water supply, irrigation, navigation, recreation, water quality and fish and wildlife. Infrastructure operated by both the Corps and Bureau of Reclamation is included in the study.

Additional information on the authorized purposes study is available at www.mraps.org and information about this focus group interview process and a link to a brief electronic survey are available at www.mraps.ecr.gov